2007-05103/

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MP DAVE BATTERS ANNOUNCES $17,000 IN FUNDING FOR A NEW PROJECT TO BENEFIT LOCAL SENIORS

MOOSE JAW, SASKATCHEWAN, January 18, 2007—Dave Batters, Member of Parliament for Palliser, on behalf of the Honourable Monte Solberg, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development, today announced $17,000 in funding to Southern Plains Métis Local #160 Inc., to enable older Métis adults in Moose Jaw to use their knowledge to teach skills and share their culture and experiences with Métis youth and others in the general community.

"Canada's New Governm ent is committed to enhancing the social well-being of seniors in communities by encouraging them to share their skills, wisdom and experience," said Mr. Batters. "Projects like the one I'm announcing today help reduce social isolation and promote seniors' continuing involvement in the community."

Canada's New Government is acting to address the needs of seniors through the introduction of a series of important measures that include:

- A proposed change in tax policy for seniors, beginning in 2007, permitting income splitting for pensioners;
- Bringing forward legislation to make it easier for seniors to apply for and receive the Guaranteed Income Supplement;
- Increasing the Pension Income Credit from $1,000 to $2,000 per year - putting almost $900 million back in the hands of seniors over the next two years; and,
- Introducing a Tax Fairness Plan that will increase the age credit by $1,000 (from $4,066 to $5,066), effective this tax year.

The New Horizons for Seniors Program provides grants to support a range of community-based projects across Canada that encourage seniors to contribute to their communities through social participation and active living. Projects support broad national objectives and regional priorities.

For more information on the Government of Canada's New Horizons for Seniors Program, visit www.hrsdc.gc.ca.

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All times are reflected in Atlantic time

Date Modified: 2007-01-18